

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

- M. Blake, Mayor
- T. Ault, Councillor
- L. Bussieres Councillor
- J. Cardinal, Councillor (via teleconference)
- S. Germain, Councillor
- K. McGrath, Councillor
- P. Meagher, Councillor
- J. Stroud, Councillor
- C. Tatum, Councillor (via teleconference)
- A. Vinni, Councillor
- C. Voyageur, Councillor (via teleconference)

Administration:

- M. Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer
- K. Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
- B. Couture, Executive Director
- D. Leflar, Chief Legislative Officer
- A. Rogers, Senior Legislative Officer
- S. Harper, Legislative Officer
- D. Soucy, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Mayor M. Blake called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes of Regular Council Meeting - July 26, 2016

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on July 26, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentations

2. Kevin Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer re: Flood Mitigation
(6:07 p.m. – 7:09 p.m.)

Kevin Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, provided a comprehensive presentation on flood mitigation, including the history of ice jam and overland flooding, provincial and municipal policies, various mitigation methods and the current status of flood mitigation within Fort McMurray.

A request was made to have administration investigate and bring back to Council preliminary cost estimates for installing a concrete pony wall from Saline Creek Drive on the south side of the Hangingstone River to the Horse Pasture Park.

Reports

3. Development of a Council Commendation Program (7:09 p.m. – 7:33 p.m.)

Councillor S. Germain presented an overview of the proposed Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Council Commendation Program to award and recognize individuals for deeds or acts of service or valour that are outstanding, exceptional and beyond the expected normal call of duty. The inaugural commendations would be presented to the numerous individuals involved in the first 100 hours of the 2016 wildfire event.

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud:

1. That Administration be directed to:
 - (a) proceed with an inaugural event to recognize the numerous individuals involved in the first 100 hours of the 2016 wildfire event, and allocate any needed funds from the existing Council budget;
 - (b) investigate opportunities for the creation of a commemorative landmark to recognize the significance of the 2016 wildfire events, and the heroic efforts of those involved in fighting it; and
 - (c) develop a Council Policy for a long-term commendation program for Council's consideration.
2. That all costs associated with the proposed Commendation Program incurred in 2016 be funded from:
 - (a) the 2016 Regional Council Operating Budget;
 - (b) the 2016 corporate-wide Operating Budget; or
 - (c) the Emerging Issues Reserve,
in that order.

Jim Rogers, resident, spoke against the Council Commendation Program.

Points of Order:

Councillor S. Germain called a point of order on two separate occasions citing that delegate J. Rogers was speaking to matters unrelated to the agenda item. The Points of Order were upheld by Mayor M. Blake.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Municipal Landfill - Extension to Waiver of Tipping Fees
(7:33 p.m. – 7:49 p.m.)

Erin O'Neill, Recovery Branch Lead, Regional Emergency Operations Centre, provided an overview of the proposed extension to the waiving of tipping fees for household waste at the landfill until October 31, 2016.

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that the June 28, 2016 resolution regarding the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee Recommendation – Landfill and Waste Management Matters be amended by deleting from section (b), the words "...July 31, 2016," and replacing it with "October 31, 2016."

Jim Rogers, resident, requested clarification on the tipping fees as related to the kinds of waste being brought to the landfill, including demolition materials. Mayor M. Blake clarified that the proposed extension to waive tipping fees applies to household waste only.

Paul McLeod, resident, questioned the hours of operation at the landfill for which administration provided clarification.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Small and Medium Business Recovery Support Funding
(7:49 p.m. – 8:17 p.m.)

Keith Smith, Acting Director of Economic Development, provided a presentation on the Small and Medium Business Recovery Support Funding program.

Moved by Councillor S. Germain:

- That Council approve the transfer of \$10 Million uncommitted funds from the Capital Infrastructure Reserve to the Emerging Issues Reserve.
- That Council approve the allocation of \$15 Million from the Emerging Issues Reserve to the Small and Medium Business Recovery Support Program.

Alexis Foster, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of the recovery support funding for local businesses.

Exit and Return:

Councillor S. Germain exited the meeting at 8:14 p.m. and reentered at 8:15 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Selection Committee Recommendations – Mid-Term Committee Appointments
(8:18 p.m. – 8:21 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher:

- That Doug Finland be appointed to the Community Services Committee effective immediately to December 31, 2017; and
- That Scott Garner be appointed to the Advisory Committee on Aging, representing Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation, effective immediately to December 31, 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Mayor M. Blake declared the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer